

## WAIVER OF VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at Berlin August 19 and 24, 1925*

*Entered into force September 1, 1925*

*Terminated June 9, 1932, by agreement of May 27 and 31, 1932*<sup>1</sup>

Department of State files

*The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs*

AMERICAN EMBASSY  
*Berlin, August 19, 1925*

No. 90

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to inform you that I am now authorized by my Government to conclude a reciprocal agreement to waive fees for non-immigrant visas and applications therefor on the basis proposed in the Foreign Office Note Verbale No. V. Pa. 2245 of July 31, 1925.

Accordingly, I beg to advise Your Excellency that the Government of the United States will, from September 1, 1925, collect no fee for visaing passports or executing applications therefor in the case of citizens of Germany desiring to visit the United States (including the insular possessions) who are not "immigrants" as defined in the Immigration Act of the United States of 1924;<sup>2</sup> namely,

"(1) a government official, his family, attendants, servants and employees.

"(2) an alien visiting the United States temporarily as a tourist or temporarily for business or pleasure.

"(3) an alien in continuous transit through the United States.

"(4) an alien lawfully admitted to the United States who later goes in transit from one part of the United States to another through foreign contiguous territory.

"(5) a bona fide alien seaman serving as such on a vessel arriving at a port of the United States and seeking to enter temporarily the United States solely in the pursuit of his calling as a seaman, and

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<sup>1</sup> *Post*, p. 239.

<sup>2</sup> 43 Stat. 153.

“(6) an alien entitled to enter the United States solely to carry on trade under and in pursuance of the provisions of a present existing treaty of commerce and navigation;” and the Government of the United States understands that, reciprocally, the Government of Germany, will, from September 1, 1925, collect no fee for visaing passports or executing applications therefor in the case of non-immigrant citizens of the United States of like classes desiring to visit Germany or its possessions.

I will be pleased to receive Your Excellency's assurance that the foregoing is acceptable to the German Government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to Your Excellency the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN

His Excellency Mr. SCHUBERT,  
*Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

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*The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador*

[TRANSLATION]

FOREIGN OFFICE  
No. V Pa. 2613

BERLIN, August 24, 1925

MR. AMBASSADOR:

I have the honor to confirm the receipt of Your Excellency's note No. 90 of August 19, 1925, in which you state that the Government of the United States of America will, from September 1, 1925, collect no fee for visaing passports and executing applications therefor in the case of German nationals desiring to journey to the United States of America and the insular possessions insofar as they are not immigrants as defined in the Immigration Act of the United States of 1924: namely:

(1) government officials, their families, attendants, servants and employees;

(2) aliens visiting the United States temporarily as tourists or temporarily for business or pleasure;

(3) aliens in continuous transit through the United States;

(4) aliens lawfully admitted to the United States traveling from one part of the United States to another through foreign contiguous territory;

(5) bona fide alien seamen serving as such on a vessel and wishing, during the sojourn of that ship in an America harbor, to enter temporarily the United States in their capacity as seamen;

(6) aliens entitled to enter the United States who wish to carry on trade in pursuance of the provisions of an existing treaty of commerce and navigation.

The German Government takes cognizance of this communication and on its part will, in the issuance of visas and the executions of applications therefor, act in a corresponding manner in the case of citizens of the United States of America. Accordingly, the German Government regards as concluded the agreement on the elimination to the extent indicated above, of fees for issuance of visas and for the executions of applications, effective September 1, 1925.

German representatives abroad will be supplied, without delay, with the necessary instructions; those in the United States of America by telegraph, and those in other countries by courier or by mail. In this connection, however, it must be taken into consideration that in view of the shortness of time, distant representatives will receive the instructions only after September 1, 1925.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Ambassador, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

SCHUBERT

His Excellency Mr. SCHURMAN,  
*Ambassador of the United States of America,*  
*Berlin.*